



Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: The Two Pink Sheep
Subtitle: A Love Story
Author: Patrick C. Notchtree
Genre: Fiction - LGBTQ



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development:	Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.
5	
Formatting:	Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.
5	
Marketability:	Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.
5	
Overall Opinion:	The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.
5	

Review:

Reviewed by Jamie Michele for Readers' Favorite

In Patrick C. Notchtree's *The Two Pink Sheep*, Ethan Robson grows up in Bilt Haven with the memory of Mark Martin, a school friend whose death teaches him how dangerous secrecy can become. At Thirlham University, Ethan meets James Boyle, an Irish history student whose family rejects his sexuality, and their life together becomes the center of Ethan's future. As Ethan becomes a criminal solicitor and James becomes a teacher, their home at Sheepfold must stay discreet in a country where the law still puts gay men at risk. Ethan's cases bring him face to face with men harmed by prejudice and fear, forcing him to decide whether his career can protect the truth he shares with James, or whether silence will keep taking lives. "They have just cloned a sheep in Edinburgh... They've called it Dolly. But if they can clone a sheep, I'm going to clone a pink sheep."

Patrick C. Notchtree's *The Two Pink Sheep* is a sweeping novel that is effectively Ethan's entire life, from his earliest childhood through to fully-fledged adulthood. Notchtree does an excellent job of balancing the heartfelt moments with those that are also heartbreaking, and Ethan does not have it easy. He is, however, easy to like. As a solicitor, he treats Kieran Thornton, a frightened young prisoner, with dignity during an interview. In another case, he proves someone's innocence by checking the evidence himself. The settings are spectacular. Sheepfold feels sheltered through old tools in the garage and rooms made ready for daily life, and a Mediterranean cruise has sea air and ease transcending the page. Well written and immersive, readers who enjoy literary historical fiction rooted in the evolution of LGBTQ+ law will adore this. Very highly recommended.